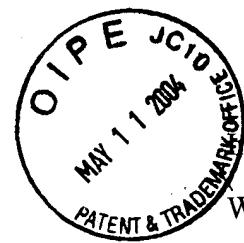


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



IN re Application of:
WILLIAM A. LINTON, ET AL.

Appln. No.: 09/981,219

Filed: October 16, 2001

For: RADIO FREQUENCY
IDENTIFICATION METHOD AND
SYSTEM OF VENDING PRODUCTS

Examiner: Kimberly D. Nguyen
Group Art Unit: 2876
May 11, 2004

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

LETTER RE INTERVIEW

Sir:

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended in granting and conducting on January 23, 2004, a telephonic interview with Applicants' representative in the above-referenced application. The interview, which pertained to telephonic restriction, is detailed in an Interview Summary Record attached to the February 11, 2004 Notice of Allowance. MPEP 713.04. During the interview, the Examiner kindly explained that Claims 53 through 96 were subject to restriction (i.e., a two-way restriction between Group I (Claims 15, 16, and 26) and Group II (Claims 53 through 96), and the Examiner requested authorization to cancel the Group II claims (Claims 53 through 96) without prejudice as non-elected, which authorization was granted by Applicants' representative. Applicants respectfully wish to advise the Examiner that Applicants have presented the non-elected claims in a divisional application, Application No. 10/795,386 filed March 9, 2004, to which the Examiner's attention is respectfully directed.

FORMAL MATTERS

Any fee required in connection with this paper should be charged to Deposit Account 06-1205.

CONCLUSION

Favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Daniel S. Glueck
Registration No. 37,838

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
DSG/dc

DC_MAIN 165660v1